I. *A Letter from Mr.* Wm. Fidge, *Surgeon, at* Portſmouth, *to* Cromwell Mortimer, *M. D. Secret. R. S. concerning a* Stone *taken out of the Bladder of a* Dog; *which being cut aſunder had a Piece of* Dog-Graſs *in its Center.*

SIR,

Read at a Meeting of the Royal Society, Jan. 8. 1746-7.

ACcording to your Directions I have ſent an Account of the Stone I left with you; It is now fourteen Years ſince I took it out of the Bladder of a very large Maſtiff, about five Years old, belonging to the Porter of his Majeſty's Dock-Yard at *Portſmouth*. The Dog died in about three Days after receiving a Kick from ſome one endeavouring to part him from another Maſtiff he was fighting with.

Being then an Apprentice to the Surgeon of the Yard, and hearing the Dog was dead, I ſent the Labourer, who attended the Surgery, to get him for me, in order to diſſect.

When I had open'd the *Abdomen*, I found it fill'd with bloody Urine; and having before heard that his Death was ſuppos'd to be occaſion'd by the Kick, I immediately thought the Bladder muſt be the Part hurt; which, when I had cleanſed the *Abdomen*, I examined, and found this large Stone, with the Bladder contracted cloſe to it on every Side, and rent at the Bottom about three Quarters of an Inch; ſo that what Urine came to the Bladder was diſcharg'd

into the *Abdomen*; which was plainly the Cauſe of his Death.

When I firſt took it out it weigh'd 10 Ounces 2 Drachms and an half. It is not more than two Months ſince I cut it aſunder; when, finding it form'd upon (as I imagine it it is) a Piece of Dog-Graſs, I thought it would not be an unacceptable Preſent to the Curious; therefore, having ſome Affairs which call'd me to Town, I brought it with me for that Purpoſe.

What is to be farther remarked is, that I did not find any the leaſt Particle of Gravel or Sand either in the Kidneys or Ureters; and that all the Bones (except the Ribs and *Cranium*) are more or leſs carious, as the Bones you have with the Stone.

If, when you ſhew it to the *Royal Society*, it ſhould be thought deſerving a Place among their Curioſities, it will give me the greateſt Pleaſure, in having this Opportunity of preſenting ſomething worth the Notice of ſo Learned and Ingenious a Body of Gentlemen. I am,

SIR,

With all due Reſpect,

Your moſt obedient,

humble Servant,

William Fidge.

London, Dec. 29. 1746.

II.